

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES
MADE, AND LISTING OF ALL CLAIMS WITH PROPER IDENTIFIERS**

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 6, wherein the ring segments define wave crests and wave valleys, with the wave crests and wave valleys of adjacent ring segments confronting one another.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Previously presented) The stent of claim 6, wherein the connectors, arranged successively in the longitudinal axis are linked to the arcuate sections by connections, with the connections of the first connectors and the connections of the second connectors confronting one another.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently amended) A stent, comprising a tubular support frame defining a longitudinal axis and expandable from an initial state to ~~an~~ a support state, said support frame including a plurality of ring segments arranged in succession in a direction of the longitudinal axis and formed by struts and U-shaped arcuate sections to which are joined ~~join the struts continuously in to thereby form~~ a wave-like manner configuration in a circumferential direction of the support frame, ~~with the struts being curved arcuately and merging into one another via U-shaped arcuate sections~~ [[,]] wherein adjacent ring segments are linked by first and second connectors which alternate in the a same circumferential direction plane as well as and repeatedly alternate in the direction of the longitudinal axis and which are each formed with a U-shaped compensating section, with the compensating sections of the first and second connectors pointing in a same circumferential direction, wherein the first connectors are longer in length than the second connectors and have arcuate legs disposed on both sides of the compensating sections and curved in the same circumferential direction as the struts.